

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 03684 120742Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
/049 W

-----079021 121413Z /43

R 120654Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3261
INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3684

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR AS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON AND PAN AM
FARE APPLICATION

REF: (A) STATE 115891, (B) STATE 117800, (C) CANBERRA 2998

1. FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOHN ROWLAND HAS ADVISED
EMBASSY THAT PROPOSED DATE FOR SECOND ROUND OF AVIATION
CONSULTATIONS, JULY 10, IS A GOOD DATE TO WORK TOWARDS
FROM AUSTRALIAN STANDPOINT. HE ADVISED THAT IT STILL MUST
BE A BIT TENTATIVE IN THAT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT NIXON HAS
YET TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CABINET CONSIDERATION WITH
RESPECT TO INTERNATIONAL AVIATION POLICY REVIEW. HOWEVER,
BARRING UNFORESEEN DELAYS IN THAT AREA, DATE OF JULY 10 IS
ACCEPTABLE.

2. EMBOFF RAISED WITH ROWLAND PAN AM APPLICATION TO APPLY
DIRECT MELBOURNE-AUCKLAND FARE TO ITS NON-STOP MELBOURNE-
SYDNEY-AUCKLAND PASSENGERS. ROWLAND HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF TURN-
DOWN AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT. SUBSEQUENT CALL FROM
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ROB ELDER IN AVIATION POLICY DIVISION CLARIFIED BASIS FOR
TURN-DOWN. AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND BILATERAL AGREEMENT
SPECIFIES THAT DIRECT FARE SHALL APPLY ONLY TO DIRECT FLIGHTS
AND THAT HIGHER, SECTIONAL FARES SHALL APPLY TO INDIRECT
FLIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT PASSENGER STOPS
OVER. THIS PROVISION, ELDER STATES, IS NON-DISCRIMINATORY
IN THAT IT APPLIES TO ALL AIRLINES, QANTAS AND AIR NEW

ZEALAND INCLUDED. BECAUSE IT IS PART OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT, AUSTRALIA CANNOT UNILATERALLY ACCEDE TO PAN AM REQUEST, AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED IT WISHES TO STUDY IMPLICATIONS AND TO DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH AUSTRALIA AT NEXT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

3. EMBASSY HAS IMPRESSION THAT AUSTRALIA IS MORE RECEPTIVE TO PAN AM PROPOSAL THAN NEW ZEALAND, ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE THAT ROWLAND AND ELDER WERE DELIBERATELY TRYING TO CREATE IMPRESSION OF GREATER REASONABLENESS. ROWLAND ALSO MADE INTERESTING COMMENT THAT HE PERSONALLY FAVORS A MELBOURNE-U.S. FARE WHICH WOULD CREATE INCENTIVE FOR MELBOURNE-U.S. TRAVEL WITHOUT STOP-OVERS IN SYDNEY. THIS WOULD HELP TO EASE CONGESTION IN SYDNEY.

4. ELDER IS PROVIDING EMBASSY WITH COPY OF AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND AGREEMENT, WHICH EMBASSY WILL FORWARD TO DEPARTMENT. ALSTON

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Message Attributes

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